

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 293527  
ORIGIN SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 OC-06 CCO-00 ISO-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY CA:SCS:JLWARD:GJL

APPROVED BY CA:SCS:AAGISE

OC/T:WSPURR(PHONE)

CA/SCS:LPMULLIN

-----117486 091235Z /20

R 082250Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 293527

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES

SUBJECT: DIRECT RELAY NOTIFICATION OF DEATH TELEGRAMS

REF: CA-1597 OF MARCH 19, 1976

1. THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT INSTANCES IN WHICH OFFICIAL DIRECT RELAY TELEGRAMS FROM POSTS NOTIFYING THE NEXT OF KIN THAT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN HAS DIED ABROAD HAVE NOT BEEN DELIVERED IN A TIMELY FASHION BY WESTERN UNION TO THE ADDRESSEE, OR IN SOME CASES HAVE NOT BEEN DELIVERED AT ALL. SCS AND OC/T HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH WESTERN UNION IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM. WE HAVE DEVELOPED A NEW SYSTEM WHEREIN ALL OFFICIAL DEATH NOTIFICATION MESSAGES FROM POSTS ABROAD WILL BE RELAYED TO WESTERN UNION WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE TELEGRAM BE HAND DELIVERED WITHIN 24 HOURS AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT BE ADVISED WHEN DELIVERY

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HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

2. IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT DEATH NOTIFICATION MESSAGES ARE PROPERLY HANDLED UNDER THIS NEW SYSTEM, ALL ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE ADVISED THAT, BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY, ALL OFFICIAL DIRECT RELAY NOTIFICATION OF DEATH TELEGRAMS SHOULD HAVE THE WORDS "CASUALTY MESSAGE" ENTERED AS

A CAPTION LINE ON THE TELEGRAM, WHEN IT IS PREPARED  
AT POSTS. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 08-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE293527  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SCS:JLWARD:GJL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770458-0751  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771276/aaaacmsd.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ecbb2308-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SCS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 304196  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DIRECT RELAY NOTIFICATION OF DEATH TELEGRAMS  
**TAGS:** CDES  
**To:** ALL POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ecbb2308-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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